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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

May | Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor, Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports | 86-5

SUMMARY: Total unemployment decreased by 710 from mid-April to mid-May. The latest total of 18,010 unemployed represents 3.2 percent of the civilian labor force of 562,550. A year ago there were 21,280 unemployed and a rate of 4.0 percent. Nationally the rates were 7.0 percent in May and 7.0 percent a year ago. Based on the latest data available by state, (April 1986), New Hampshire has had the lowest unemployment rate of any state for the past nine consecutive months.

Employment increases in construction were recorded during May as housing starts continued a vigorous pace and highway repair and construction expanded. Trade and services jobs also increased as seasonal jobs were filled signalling the start up of the forthcoming summer tourist season. Manufacturing experienced some layoffs particularly in the electrical products and machinery industries. Overall, seven areas experienced decreased unemployment while five areas experienced increased unemployment. The largest unemployment decrease was 440 in the Littleton Labor Market Area as seasonal jobs became available in construction, trade and services. The largest unemployment increase occurred in the Manchester Metropolitan Statistical Area as 300 more workers lost their jobs. The rates of unemployment ranged from 1.9 percent in the Claremont Labor Market Area to 6.1 percent in the Salem area (N.H. Portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill MSA).

Compared to a year ago, all areas except the Manchester MSA experienced unemployment decreases with the largest decrease of 1,240 occurring in the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester N.H. - Maine MSA. The Manchester area recorded an unemployment increase from a year ago of 220. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is up 24,100 workers as manufacturing lost 2,150 and nonmanufacturing gained 26,250 over the year. Service increased 8,200, construction 6,900, and trade 6,450.

MANCHESTER ECONOMIC CONDITIONS: Total unemployment increased by 300 from April as the rate increased to 3.1 from 2.7 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 250 from April and by 1,950 from a year ago. Nonmanufacturing is up 2,800 workers while manufacturing is down 850. Construction has increased by 700 workers from last year, trade 400, and services 900. In the manufacturing sector, machinery and electrical products lost 550 jobs during the year.

NASHUA ECONOMIC CONDITIONS: Total unemployment increased by 150 from April as the rate went from 3.3 to 3.4 percent. A year ago the rate was 3.6 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment remained unchanged from April and is up 150 over last year's level. While manufacturing has lost 800 jobs over the year, nonmanufacturing has gained 950. While services is up 350, machinery and electrical products is down 600.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State					Manchester MSA					Nashua PMSA				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous		Number of Workers			Numerical Change From Previous	
	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	Month	Year	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	Month	Year	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	Month	Year
1. Civilian labor force*	562,550	559,490	528,760	3,060	33,790	83,280	83,410	79,200	-130	4,080	89,820	89,820	88,290	0	1,530
2. Unemployment	18,010	18,720	21,280	-710	-3,270	2,580	2,280	2,360	300	220	3,090	2,940	3,140	150	-50
Percent of labor force	3.2	3.3	4.0	xxx	xxx	3.1	2.7	3.0	xxx	xxx	3.4	3.3	3.6	xxx	xxx
3. Employment total	544,400	540,590	507,480	3,810	36,920	80,650	81,080	76,840	-430	3,810	86,715	86,865	85,150	-150	1,565
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	140	180	0	-40	140	50	50	0	0	50	15	15	0	0	15
Nonagri. wage & salary**	485,050	479,850	460,950	5,200	24,100	81,150	80,900	79,200	250	1,950	83,650	83,650	83,500	0	150
Manufacturing	120,800	121,200	122,950	-400	-2,150	14,700	14,550	15,550	150	-850	36,600	36,800	37,400	-200	-800
Durable goods	83,300	83,650	84,350	-350	-1,050	9,000	9,000	9,200	0	-200	30,350	30,550	31,050	-200	-700
Lumber & wood prods.	5,750	5,800	5,700	-50	50										
Furniture & fixtures	1,700	1,700	1,550	0	150										
Stone & clay prods.	3,100	3,000	3,050	100	50										
Primary metal prods.	4,350	4,450	4,300	-100	50										
Fabricated metal prods.	7,000	7,000	7,150	0	-150										
Machinery (exc. elec.)	25,600	25,750	25,850	-150	-250	5,300	5,350	5,850	-50	-550	22,950	23,150	23,550	-200	-600
Electrical prods.	24,250	24,500	25,900	-250	-1,650										
Miscellaneous prods.	2,250	2,200	2,200	50	50										
Other durables	9,300	9,250	8,650	50	650	3,700	3,650	3,350	50	350	7,400	7,400	7,500	0	-100
Nondurable goods	37,500	37,550	38,600	-50	-1,100	5,700	5,550	6,350	150	-650	6,250	6,250	6,350	0	-100
Food & kindred prods.	3,250	3,250	3,000	0	250										
Textile mill prods.	3,600	3,650	3,650	-50	-50	1,500	1,450	1,700	50	-200					
Apparel	2,400	2,450	2,500	-50	-100										
Paper & allied prods.	5,500	5,500	5,600	0	-100										
Print., pub. & allied	7,150	7,100	7,300	50	-150										
Leather & lea. prods.	5,250	5,300	5,600	-50	-350										
Other nondurables	10,350	10,300	10,950	50	-600	4,200	4,100	4,650	100	-450					
Nonmanufacturing	364,250	358,650	338,000	5,600	26,250	66,450	66,350	63,650	100	2,800	47,050	46,850	46,100	200	950
Construction (inc. min.)	37,800	36,000	30,900	1,800	6,900	5,300	5,350	4,600	-50	700	4,000	3,800	3,950	200	50
Trans., comm. & util.	*15,450	*15,250	15,550	200	-100	*4,750	*4,750	4,650	0	100	*2,150	*2,200	2,050	-50	100
Trade	116,900	114,850	110,450	2,050	6,450	21,350	21,350	20,950	0	400	16,800	16,800	17,050	0	-250
Fin., ins. & real estate	27,400	27,050	25,050	350	2,350	7,400	7,300	6,950	100	450	2,800	2,750	2,650	50	150
Service industry & other	104,650	103,500	96,450	1,150	8,200	19,800	19,750	18,900	50	900	15,100	15,150	14,750	-50	350
Government	62,050	62,000	59,600	50	2,450	7,850	7,850	7,600	0	250	6,200	6,150	5,650	50	550
Federal	8,100	8,100	7,500	0	0	2,400	2,400	2,200	0	200	800	750	750	50	50
State	16,950	16,900	16,750	50	200	850	850	850	0	0	250	250	200	0	-50
Local	37,000	37,000	35,350	0	1,650	4,600	4,600	4,550	0	50	5,150	5,150	4,700	0	450

* By place of residence

** By place of establishment
Benchmark March 1985

Labor Disputes:

* May 1986 Industry 40-140 Workers on Strike not included

*April 1986 Industry 40-180 Workers on Strike not included

* May 1986 Industry 40-50 Workers on Strike not included

* April 1986 Industry 40-50 Workers on Strike not included

* May 1986 Industry 40-15 Workers on Strike not included

* April 1986 Industry 40-15 Workers on Strike not included

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE BY AREA AND COUNTY

Area	Unemployment*						Numerical Change From Previous		Civilian Labor Force			Numerical Change From Previous	
	May 1986		April 1986		May 1985				May	April	May		
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Month	Year	1986	1986	1985	Month	Year
UNITED STATES**	8,158	7.0	8,115	7.0	8,011	7.0	43	147	117,199	116,316	114,890	883	2,309
NEW HAMPSHIRE	18,010	3.2	18,720	3.3	21,280	4.0	-710	-3,270	562,550	559,490	528,760	3,060	33,790
BERLIN LMA	1,200	4.8	1,550	6.2	1,350	6.0	-350	-150	24,970	25,070	22,620	-100	2,350
CLAREMONT LMA	710	1.9	800	2.1	1,320	3.7	-90	-610	38,140	38,080	35,490	60	2,650
CONCORD LMA	1,040	2.0	1,070	2.1	1,190	2.5	-30	-150	51,180	51,360	46,780	-180	4,400
KEENE LMA	990	2.4	1,040	2.5	1,180	3.1	-50	-190	41,230	41,160	37,880	70	3,350
LACONIA LMA	1,040	2.0	1,260	2.5	1,560	3.3	-220	-520	50,830	49,690	47,020	1,140	3,810
LITTLETON LMA	680	4.0	1,120	6.5	1,000	6.5	-440	-320	16,850	17,120	15,380	-270	1,470
MANCHESTER MSA	2,580	3.1	2,280	2.7	2,360	3.0	300	220	83,280	83,410	79,200	-130	4,080
NASHUA PMSA	3,090	3.4	2,940	3.3	3,140	3.6	150	-50	89,820	89,820	88,290	0	1,530
N.H. PORTION LAWRENCE-HAVERHILL MA. PMSA***	2,710	6.1	2,570	5.8	2,950	7.0	140	-240	44,150	44,370	41,930	-220	2,220
PORTSMOUTH-DOVER-ROCHESTER N.H.-ME.	3,310	2.6	3,630	2.9	4,550	3.8	-320	1,240	127,290	124,840	119,360	2,450	7,930
UNATTACHED ESTIMATING AREA****	680	3.7	630	3.5	770	4.5	50	-90	18,550	17,780	17,020	770	1,530
N.H. PORTION LOWELL MA. PMSA	290	5.9	230	4.7	270	5.8	60	20	4,910	4,860	4,670	50	240
County													
BELKNAP	600	2.3	700	2.7	910	3.8	-100	-310	26,080	25,530	24,170	550	1,910
CARROLL	370	2.2	460	2.7	550	3.5	-90	-180	17,150	16,900	15,710	250	1,440
CHESHIRE	900	2.4	930	2.5	1,100	3.2	-30	-200	36,890	36,820	33,930	70	2,960
COOS	1,220	5.8	1,690	8.0	1,250	6.6	-470	-30	20,880	21,140	18,820	-260	2,060
GRAFTON	900	2.4	1,290	3.4	1,360	3.9	-390	-460	38,060	37,990	35,000	70	3,060
HILLSBOROUGH	5,830	3.4	5,380	3.1	5,690	3.4	450	140	174,020	173,840	167,490	180	6,530
MERRIMACK	1,220	2.0	1,220	2.0	1,490	2.7	0	-270	60,510	60,430	55,760	80	4,750
ROCKINGHAM	5,000	4.4	4,710	4.2	5,110	4.8	290	-110	113,210	112,030	106,180	1,180	7,030
STRAFFORD	1,560	2.8	1,880	3.4	2,890	5.4	-320	-1,330	55,990	55,080	53,110	910	2,880
SULLIVAN	410	2.1	460	2.3	930	5.0	-50	-520	19,760	19,730	18,590	30	1,170

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

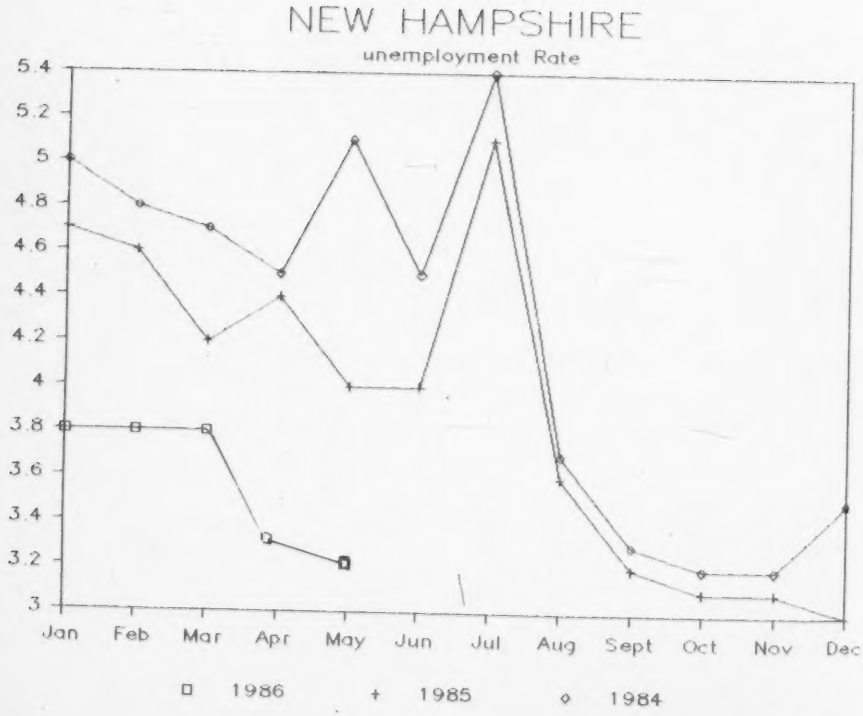
*** New Hampshire Portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and twelve small towns.

**** Includes twenty towns previously in either Dover, Portsmouth, Manchester or Nashua LMAS.

AREA DEFINITIONS

Manchester MSA includes the city of Manchester and towns of Allenstown, Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Goffstown, Hooksett.

Nashua PMSA is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton.



U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1986	1985	1984	1983
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers				
Current month - May	321.4			
Percent change from year ago	1.1			
Year average		318.5	307.6	297.4
Percent increase each year		3.5	3.4	3.0
All Urban Consumers				
Current month - May	326.3			
Percent change from year ago	1.7			
Year average		322.2	311.1	298.4
Percent increase each year		3.6	4.3	3.2

EXHIBIT 7

PROJECTIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND
AVERAGE ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS BY
MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY, 1983 and 1995

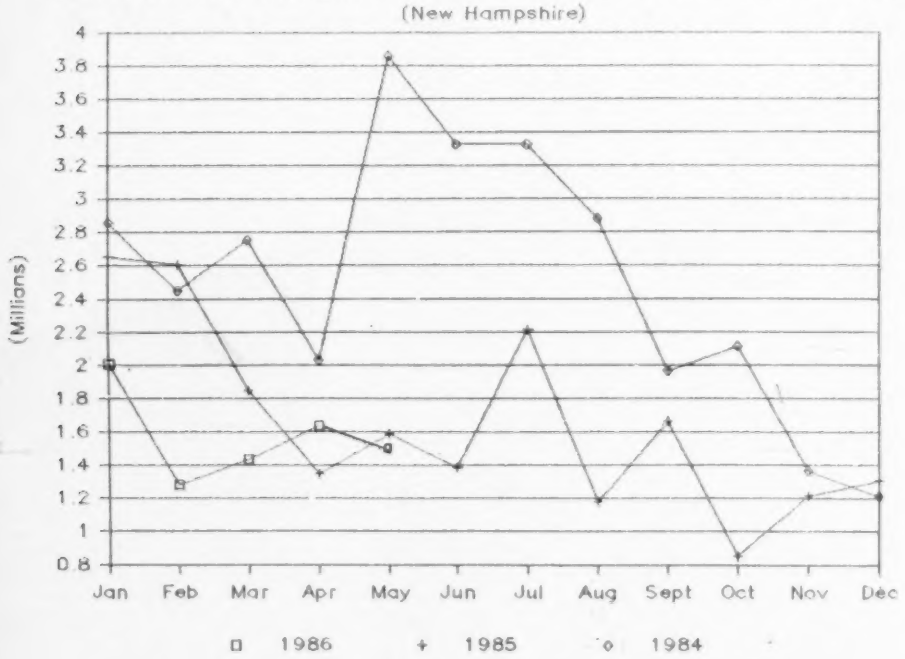
Code	Occupational Category	Employment 1983	Employment 1995	Growth Rate	Average Job Open. Annual Total	Average Job Open. Expansion Only
	All Occupations	436,002	638,612	3.9	34,467	16,900
2	Managers and administrators	39,588	59,272	4.1	3,535	1,642
24	Management support occupations	10,071	15,149	4.2	797	424
51	Engineers, architects, surveyors	7,343	11,723	5.0	569	365
75	Natural, computer and math scientist	1,714	2,623	4.4	95	76
93	Social scientists	568	726	2.3	34	14
99	Social, recreational & religious workers	3,311	4,056	1.9	253	62
106	Lawyers and judges	1,287	1,956	4.3	144	56
111	Teachers, librarians, counselors	21,262	30,457	3.6	1,264	768
150	Health diagnosing and treating occupations	11,698	17,653	4.2	983	497
170	Writers, artist, entertainers, & athletes	3,094	4,790	4.6	287	141
192	Health technicians and technologists	4,441	6,703	4.2	317	189
210	Engineering & science technicians, technol.	6,210	9,815	4.8	454	299
227	Other technicians and technologists	6,118	9,364	4.4	430	269
253	Marketing and sales occupations	46,924	74,535	4.9	4,543	2,302
276	Administrative support occupations	74,172	110,933	4.1	5,777	3,065
374	Cleaning & building service occupations	10,856	16,309	4.2	1,496	454
379	Food and beverage prep. and service occup.	32,731	49,335	4.2	2,866	1,385
396	Health service & related occupations	5,864	8,334	3.5	406	206
406	Personal service occupations	4,916	6,583	2.8	372	140
429	Protective service occupations	7,333	8,983	1.9	568	136
456	All other service occupations	3,328	4,585	3.1	257	105
467	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing occup.	3,412	4,409	2.4	251	82
498	Blue collar worker supervisors	6,479	8,604	2.7	399	177
505	Construction trades and extractive workers	17,368	23,015	2.7	991	470
559	Mechanics, installers, and repairers	17,215	23,837	3.2	1,069	556
624	Precision production occupations	14,854	22,491	4.3	1,460	636
685	Machine set-up operators, & tenders	28,744	38,989	3.0	1,867	861
789	Hand working occupations - assembly & fabr.	18,923	30,291	5.0	1,570	949
820	Plant and system occupations	441	528	1.6	22	7
833	Transportation & mat. moving mach. operators	15,588	20,019	2.4	927	368
890	Helpers, laborers, & material movers, hand	10,149	12,545	2.0	464	199

SOURCE: New Hampshire Employment Outlook 1983 - 1995

Weekly Claims Filed During May 1986
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	2,505	12,336	8	29	10	11	14	43	19	79
Berlin	138	1,112	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
Claremont	86	334	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0
Concord	122	525	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Conway	47	221	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dover	353	1,274	2	2	2	0	2	10	8	17
Keene	148	572	1	2	0	4	2	0	1	1
Laconia	130	570	0	3	1	1	1	7	1	1
Lebanon	34	140	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Littleton	145	657	0	5	2	0	1	3	0	0
Manchester	428	2,216	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	2
Nashua	278	1,272	0	0	2	0	1	6	0	4
Portsmouth	280	1,517	0	5	0	0	1	7	5	21
Salem	97	385	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Liable Interstate	219	1,541	2	1	0	0	1	6	3	31

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was $116.19



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance End of Month

$131,696,468.72

Net contributions received during month:

$ 4,379,523.52

Net benefits paid during month:

$ 1,522,802.54

Interest Received:

$ 3,097,342.75

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985
All manufacturing	$359.92	$356.33	$334.06	40.9	40.4	40.2	$8.80	$8.82	$8.31
Durable goods	374.67	368.42	345.82	41.4	40.8	40.4	9.05	9.03	8.56
Lumber & wood prods.	271.72	263.03	258.57	39.9	39.2	39.0	6.81	6.71	6.63
Furniture & fixtures	290.14	288.23	263.10	39.8	41.0	36.9	7.29	7.03	7.13
Stone & clay prods.	364.65	347.32	338.44	42.9	41.2	42.2	8.50	8.43	8.02
Primary metal prods.	395.71	408.83	360.74	43.2	43.4	40.9	9.16	9.42	8.82
Fab. metal prods.	347.53	339.83	312.03	39.9	39.7	39.8	8.71	8.56	7.84
Mach. (exc. elec.)	411.34	408.53	382.79	43.9	43.6	43.4	9.37	9.37	8.82
Electrical prods.	403.38	386.28	359.04	40.5	38.9	38.4	9.96	9.93	9.35
Miscellaneous prods.	262.43	266.19	279.28	38.2	38.3	42.9	6.87	6.95	6.51
Other durables	359.70	369.65	350.80	40.1	40.8	40.0	8.97	9.06	8.77
Nondurable goods	331.60	332.29	310.04	40.0	39.7	39.8	8.29	8.37	7.79
Food & kindred prods.	398.43	397.70	393.46	39.1	38.8	41.2	10.19	10.25	9.55
Textile mill prods.	307.42	306.18	269.40	41.6	42.0	39.1	7.39	7.29	6.89
Apparel	221.63	219.78	207.43	37.5	37.0	36.2	5.91	5.94	5.73
Paper & allied prods.	466.51	460.13	432.89	47.7	47.0	46.9	9.78	9.79	9.23
Print., pub. & allied	355.64	352.28	312.24	38.2	38.5	38.5	9.31	9.15	8.11
Leather & lea. prods.	197.80	184.43	195.64	34.4	32.3	35.7	5.75	5.71	5.48
Footwear	181.78	165.85	184.79	33.6	31.0	35.4	5.41	5.35	5.22
Other nondurables	345.47	364.15	333.28	40.5	41.1	40.3	8.53	8.86	8.27

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 52%

Total Production Workers: 83,300

Firms Reporting: 351

Manchester MSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985
All manufacturing	$346.72	$352.15	$318.00	39.4	40.2	39.7	$8.80	$8.76	$8.01
Durable goods	359.99	365.38	343.94	39.3	39.5	39.9	9.16	9.25	8.62
Mach. & elec. prods.	363.77	368.34	343.08	39.8	40.3	39.8	9.14	9.14	8.62
Other durables	353.82	361.52	344.40	38.5	38.5	40.0	9.19	9.39	8.61
Nondurable goods	326.73	330.79	282.10	39.7	41.4	39.4	8.23	7.99	7.16
Textiles & apparel	279.30	301.44	251.37	38.9	42.1	37.8	7.18	7.16	6.65
Other nondurables	344.80	341.95	293.20	40.0	41.1	40.0	8.62	8.32	7.33

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 60%

Total Production Workers: 10,900

Firms Reporting: 48

Nashua PMSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985	May 1986	April 1986	May 1985
All manufacturing	$441.83	$424.85	$397.13	41.8	40.5	40.4	$10.57	$10.49	$9.83
Durable goods	454.10	431.26	404.09	42.4	40.8	40.9	10.71	10.57	9.88
Mach. & elec. prods.	498.80	470.09	435.23	43.0	40.7	40.6	11.60	11.55	10.72
Other durables	354.69	343.60	328.64	41.1	41.1	41.6	8.63	8.36	7.90
Nondurable goods	396.21	402.73	370.17	39.7	39.6	38.6	9.98	10.17	9.59

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 57%

Total Production Workers: 20,450

Firms Reporting: 68

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending May 31, 1986

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL	10,496	5,069	1,050	536	1,551	679
Prof., Tech.						
Managerial (00-19)	1,498	551	108	51	298	97
Clerical (20-24)	1,929	1,600	196	172	312	267
Sales (25-29)	535	256	75	37	66	34
Services (3)	1,722	1,086	231	152	177	112
Farm (4)	147	24	19	4	8	1
Processing (5)	195	67	9	3	33	17
Machine Trade (6)	927	334	108	31	111	32
Benchwork (7)	1,109	792	82	57	112	82
Structural (8)	1,450	119	120	3	315	18
Miscellaneous (9)	952	225	99	25	116	17
Unclassified	32	15	3	1	3	2

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	May 1986	April 1986	July 1, 1985 to May 31, 1986
Total applicants for employment	2,497	2,681	20,586
Total nonagricultural job openings received	2,602	2,722	27,028
Job openings unfilled end of month	2,676	2,384	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	954	1,032	13,084